Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

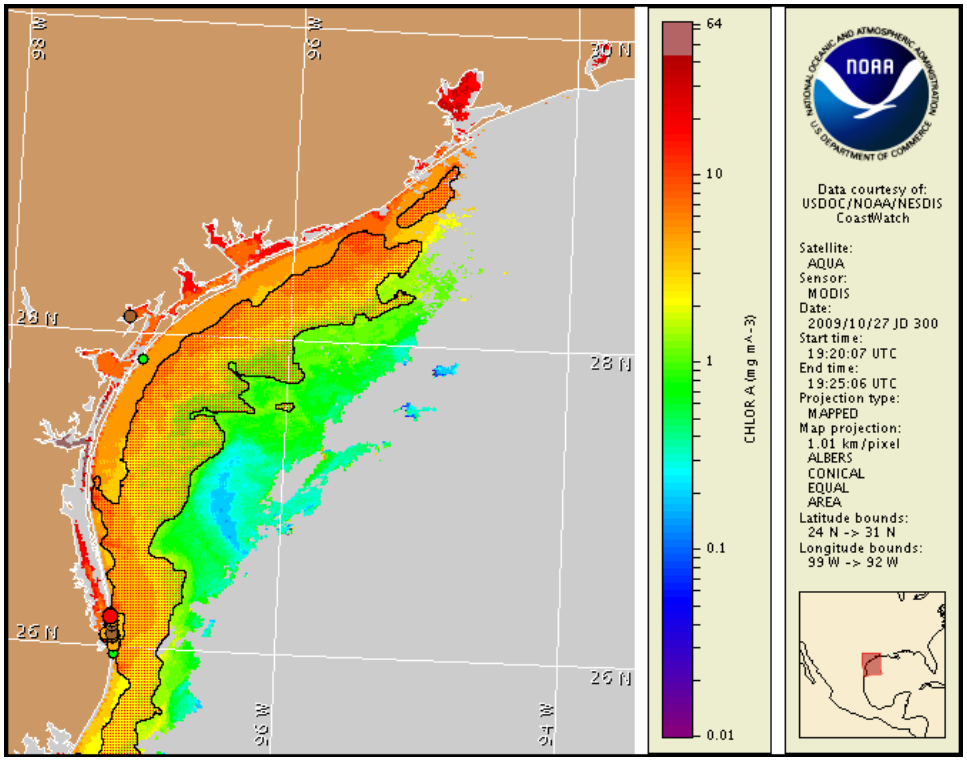
29 October 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: October 27, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 19 to 28 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

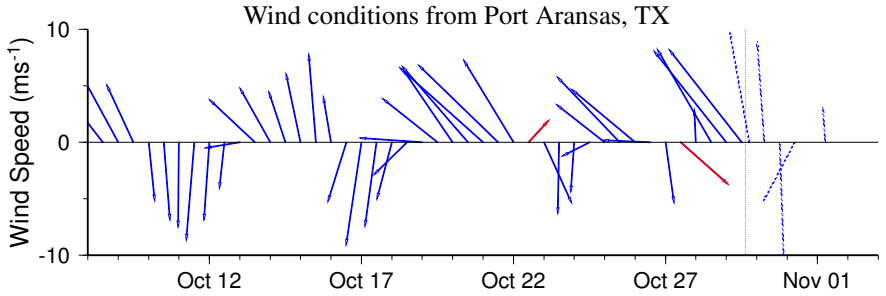
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Mustang Island to South Padre Island. Low to moderate impacts are expected today. Impacts tomorrow and through the weekend are expected to be low.

Analysis

Imagery is partially obscured by clouds but shows an elevated chlorophyll feature extending from Galveston Bay south along the coast. State sampling indicates the harmful algal bloom continues from Mustang Island to South Padre Island, with low concentrations near Port Aransas and varying low to high concentrations in the South Padre Island area. Strong southeast winds may increase impacts at the coast today. North winds through the weekend are expected to lessen impacts. Water flow is expected to be southward and should prevent northward transport of the bloom.

-Lopez, Jewett

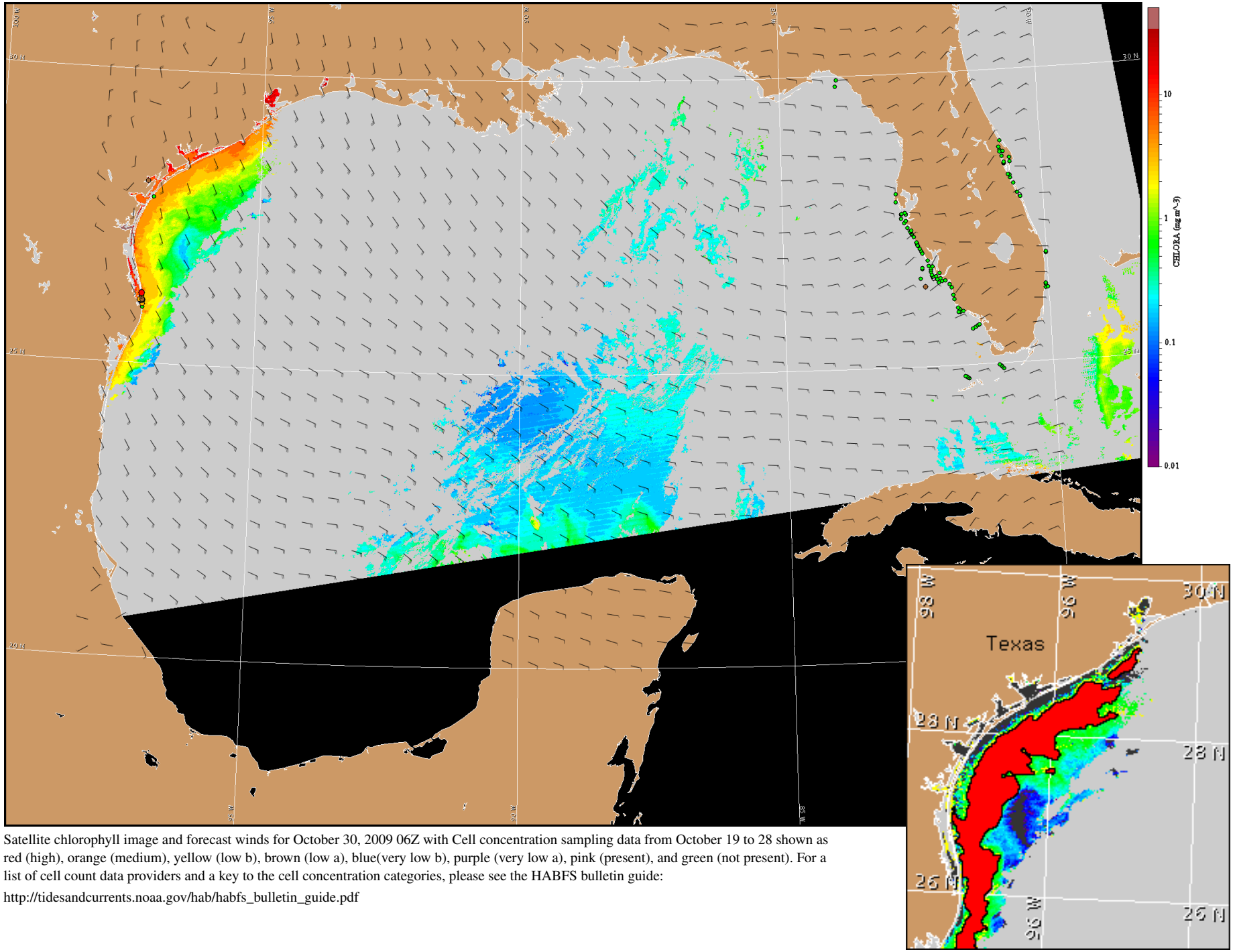


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Today, strong southeast wind around 25 knots becoming northwest tonight. Friday, srong north wind 20-30 knots. Saturday and Sunday, north wind 10-15 knots.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 30, 2009 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 19 to 28 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:
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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).